

NEW PUBLICATIONS
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The following publications have been received recently by the Plant Protection Bulletin. The comments are derived from information supplied and are not necessarily those of the Bulletin editorial staff, nor do they imply any endorsement of, or responsibility for their accuracy by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Biological control: Pacific prospects – Supplement 1

D.F. WATERHOUSE and K.R. NORRIS. 1989. ACIAR Monograph No. 12. The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), GPO Box 1571, Canberra, A.C.T. 2601, Australia. ISBN 0949511-98-6. 123 pp.

This publication continues the process, established in the parent book *Biological control: Pacific prospects* (Inkata Press, 1987), of discussing Pacific country pests with regard to reducing their impact by the use of classical biological control. A helpful introductory chapter summarizes the justification for biological control and provides guidelines for its implementation. Furthermore, six insect pests are examined, their distribution, biology, pest status and control are reviewed, and their natural enemies are listed and discussed. These pests are: *Aleurodicus dispersus*, *Frankliniella occidentalis*, *Thrips tabaci*, *Hypothenemus hampei*, *Hellula* spp. and *Erionota thrax*. Previous attempts at their biological control are evaluated and an appraisal is given of the prospects for successful biological control. Relevant literature is reviewed and unpublished information and personal communications are integrated into a comprehensive treatment. This handbook should be a useful reference for all those involved in biological pest control.

Pest management and the African farmer

O. ZETHNER, ed. 1989. Proceedings of an ICIPE/World Bank Conference on Integrated Pest Management and the African Farmer, 22-26 May 1989 Duduville,

Kasarani, Nairobi, Kenya. ICIPE Science Press, PO Box 30772, Nairobi, Kenya. ISBN 92-9064-026X. 153 pp.

This publication contains the papers, panel reports, and recommendations presented at a Conference on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and the African Farmer, held in May 1989, in Nairobi, Kenya and sponsored by the World Bank and the International Centre of Insects Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE). The participants were farmers; agricultural extension service and research personnel; and representatives from agrochemical industries and donor agencies. The objectives of the conference were to review present pest management practices and examine socio-economic, institutional and policy constraints as well as opportunities for increasing private sector involvement in the development and implementation of IPM among farmers in Africa.

Plant pathology in agriculture

D. PARRY. 1990. UK, Cambridge University Press. 385 pp. £42.50/US\$90.00, hardback (ISBN 0-521-36351-9); £17.50/US\$34.50, paperback (ISBN 0-521-36890-1).

Written in a clear style, this publication provides a good introductory text for students of plant pathology, crop protection and agriculture. It is also a good reference source for interested parties working in the agricultural and agrochemical industries.

The book is divided into two main parts covering the principles and practice of plant pathology in agriculture. The first part treats five basic questions concerning the definition, cause, behaviour, effect and control of disease, which the author addresses by outlining the principles of plant pathology and providing brief examples from agriculture where applicable. The second part puts these principles into practice, describing details of the biology, recognition and control of specific diseases of arable crops and giving the causal organism, its host range and the symptoms produced as well as specific control measures. Disease cycle diagrams provide information on the reproduction, dispersal,

epidemiology and survival of many crop pathogens, factors that are important for understanding effective disease control measures. A catalogue of the important diseases of major temperate arable crops is included.

The title is misleading, though, as the book concentrates primarily on diseases of interest to farmers in temperate climates rather than looking at plant pathology in agriculture as a global concern. This limits its usefulness, therefore, in developing countries. For example, only maize diseases of significance to temperate climates are noted and a cursory look at bacterial rot of potatoes is given, although this is a significant disease in other parts of the world. The section on chemical control is well dealt with but, again, is primarily limited to those chemicals that affect diseases in temperate climates.

Nevertheless, the general information provided in this book should prove helpful to students and plant pathologists alike.

***Quelea quelea*: Africa's bird pest**

R.L. BRUGGERS and C.C.H. ELLIOTT, eds. 1989. UK. Oxford University Press. 402 pp. ISBN 0-19-857607-2. £45 hardback.

The red-billed *Quelea quelea* is agriculture's most serious bird pest and the world's most numerous bird. The *Quelea* has probably caused problems since man first grew cereals. It can destroy smaller cereal crops including sorghum, millet, rice and wheat which, in many parts of Africa, form a major component of the staple diet.

Insufficient knowledge of *Quelea* population dynamics and the real impact of control on local populations led to the creation in 1970 of the first regional project on *Quelea* in Africa implemented by FAO with UNDP assistance. This project, together with several consecutive FAO *Quelea* projects executed on regional and national levels, involved research activities in all of the Sahelian countries and in eastern and southern Africa. Bilateral projects and cooperative studies between researchers of different organizations were also initiated to investigate all aspects of the problem. Today, *Quelea quelea* has been well-characterized ecologically and subjected to a barrage of control measures when it is thought to threaten crops. Yet,

although hundreds of millions are killed each year, the species is as abundant as ever.

This book brings together the results of much of the work carried out by researchers over the past 20 years. A number of important accomplishments and conclusions attained through their efforts are described. Topics include all aspects of *Quelea* ecology and management; its distribution, population, migration patterns and breeding behaviour; monitoring and marking; and methods of control.

The international panel of authors contributes a great deal of first-hand experience in the field. The result is a definitive account of the most destructive of bird pests.

Tomato and pepper production in the tropics

1989. AVRDC Publication No. 89-317. Proceedings of the International Symposium on Integrated Management Practices, 21-26 March 1988, Tainan, Taiwan (Province of China). Available from the Asian Vegetable Research and Development Center, PO Box 205, Taipei, 10099. ISBN 92-9058-037-2. 619 pp.

This publication is a useful reference source for students and scientists interested in the improved production and protection of tropical tomatoes and peppers. It is the product of a symposium which brought together scientists – particularly those from developing countries – working on both of these vegetables, to exchange current information on a broad spectrum of themes represented in the chapters entitled: genetic resources and conservation; varietal improvement; stress physiology; diseases and pests; integrated pest management; and cultural management. Substantial coverage is given to breeding for pest and disease resistance and varietal resistance; biological and other safe control methods; and storage problems. The book also includes country reports from Asia, Africa and the Americas which provide additional information on the status of these crops under different agroclimatic and socio-economic conditions.

